

ER 60-4-3/6

23 JAN 1960

Honorable Howard W. Cannon
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Cannon:

Your letter of 17 December 1959 to the Secretary of State requesting comments on the validity of the Allen-Scott report of 7 December 1959 has been referred to me for reply.

Available information in this Agency does not support the conclusions in the Allen-Scott report.

As a matter of interest I attach a copy of a Tass release on this subject.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

Enclosure:

Copy of TASS release

Concurrences:

/s/ Herbert Scoville
Asst. Director/SI

/s/
[Redacted]
Legislative Counsel

/s/
R. Amory, Jr.
Deputy Director (Intelligence) STAT

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SCIENTISTS CONDUCT SEISMIC SOUNDINGS

Moscow, TASS, Radioteletype in English to Europe, Dec. 2, 1959. US

There is a chance of establishing for the first time a direct lower connection between the structure of the earth's crust at a great depth and the geology of ore deposits. This conclusion was drawn by Kazakh geophysicists on the basis of the results of seismic sounding of the earth's crust at a depth of 60 to 80 kilometers by the method of the well-known Soviet geophysicist, Academician Grigory Gemburtsev. This (depth?) corresponds to the thickness of the granite and basal strata of the earth's crust.

A geophysical expedition of the Kazakh Academy of Sciences completed a map of a cross-section of the earth's crust along a 1,000 kilometer Balkhash-Tamirtau-Petropavlovsk line in central Kazakhstan. Irina Kozminskaya, a leading Soviet specialist in deep seismic sounding and a staff member of the Institute of the Physics of the Earth, told a TASS correspondent that Kazakhstan's geophysicists successfully continued the job begun in that area in 1949 by Academician Gemburtsev's expedition--its route was Issyk-Kul Lake-Balkhash Lake.

Deep-sounding, according to Gemburtsev's method, Kozminskaya said, regards as more effective explosions made not on the ground but under water. Water amplifies elastic waves created by the explosion and are directed towards (were indistinct).

Irina Kozminskaya described as ridiculous the allegations of certain American newspapers that nuclear tests were held under the bottom of the Balkhash Lake. This is a mixture of ignorance and insinuation in the cold war spirit. She said charges of only 400 to 1,000 kilograms of conventional explosive are used for deep seismic soundings (were indistinct) hundreds of times more powerful than the seismic vibrations resulting from such explosions. Incidentally, the explosions were not made under the bottom of the lake but in the water.

The research carried out in the Balkhash-Tamirtau-Petropavlovsk area had nothing unusual about it. Similar research has been and is carried out in different areas of the USSR, specifically in the Caspian and Black seas, in Turkmenia, off Kamchatka shore, and the Kurile Islands.

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